

REMARKS

This application has been amended so as to place it in condition for allowance at the time of the next Official Action.

The Official Action states that the title of the invention is not descriptive. Applicants have replaced the title as necessary.

The Official Action objects to claims 4 and 5 for language that lacks antecedent basis. Applicants have amended each claim as necessary to eliminate the basis for this objection, the reconsideration and withdrawal of which are therefore respectfully requested.

The Official Action rejects claims 1-13 under 35 USC §112, second paragraph as being indefinite. Reconsideration and withdrawal of this objection are respectfully requested for the following reasons:

With respect to claim 1, the Official Action asserts that the claim is indefinite because it fails to particularly point out and distinctly claim the structural relationships between the clock extracting part, the retiming clock generating part, the memory, and the phase adjusting part. Applicants have amended claim 1 so as to recite with greater particularity the inputs and outputs of the various recited parts and the interconnection therebetween. Accordingly, claim 1 now recites sufficient structure to eliminate this basis for the present rejection.

The Official Action also identifies language in claims 2, 8, and 9-13 considered indefinite. Applicants have amended each claim as necessary in order to eliminate the bases for this rejection.

The Official Action rejects claim 1 under 35 USC §102(b) as being anticipated by TAKATORI et al. Reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection are respectfully requested for the following reasons:

The Official Action identifies those elements of the TAKATORI et al. device construed as meeting the clock extracting part, retiming clock generating part, first-in first-out memory part, and phase adjusting part of the present invention. For purposes of comparison, Figure 2 of the present application and Figure 1 of the TAKATORI et al. reference are reproduced below.

FIG. 2

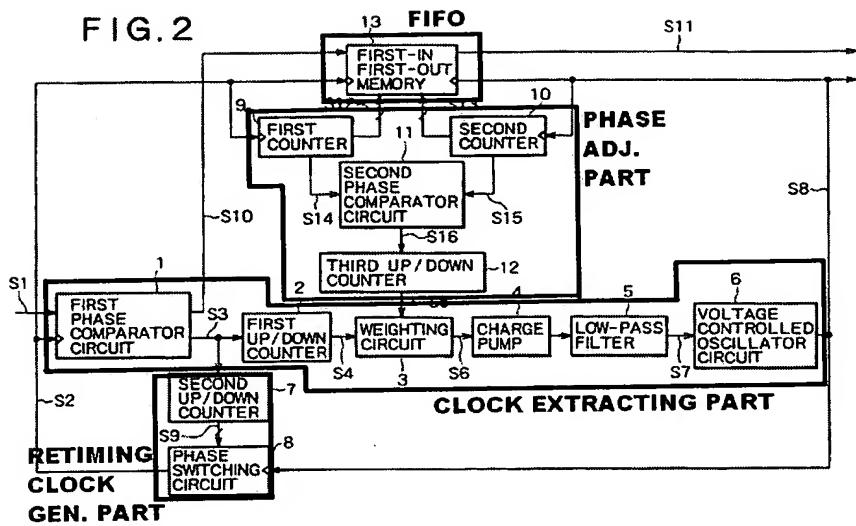
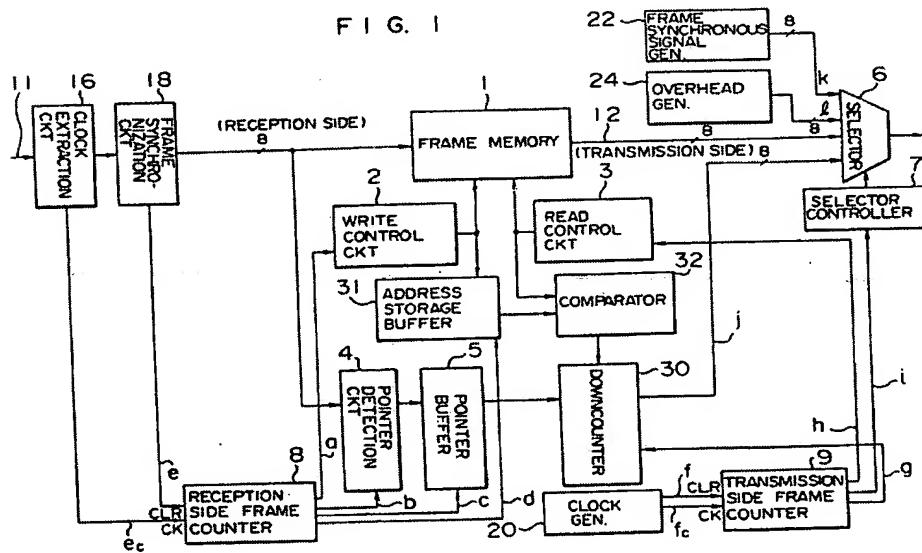


FIG. 1



The reproduction of Figure 2 of the present application is annotated to identify those components that make up the features recited in independent claim 1. Among the features clearly illustrated in this high level schematic illustration, and now recited in claim 1, are the receipt by the clock

extracting part of input signal S1 and the generation by the clock extracting part of extracted input clock S8 and retimed input signal S10. Claim 1 also recites the receipt by the retiming clock generating part of the extracted input clock and the generation by the retiming clock generating part of the retiming clock S2, which is fed back to the clock extracting part. The first-in first-out memory receives as an input not only the retimed input signal from the clock extracting part, but also the retiming clock from the retiming clock generating part.

These characteristics preclude the maintenance of the present anticipation rejection, as the clock extraction circuit 16 of the reference can no longer be construed as the recited clock extracting part; the frame synchronization circuit 18 can no longer be construed as the retiming clock generating part; and the frame memory 1 can no longer be construed as the first-in first-out memory part. As the applied reference fails to disclose the full set of features recited by the rejected claim, particularly in its current amended form, applicants respectfully suggest that the present anticipation rejection cannot be maintained.

The Official Action states that claims 2-13 are allowable but for their dependence from rejected claim 1. Claims 2-13 should now be in condition for immediate allowance, at least by virtue of their ultimate dependence from amended claim 1.

In addition to the amendments described above, applicants have added a number of new claims. Claim 14 is an independent claim that recites features that are believed to be neither disclosed, taught, nor suggested by either the applied reference or any other known prior art. Claims 15-17 depend sequentially from new independent claim 14.

New independent claim 18, from which new claim 19 depends, also recites features unknown in the prior art, specifically the references now of record. According to the TAKATORI et al. patent, input data 11 is stored in a frame memory 1 synchronously with a clock a extracted from the input data 11. The input data is read synchronously with a clock generated by a clock generator 20. The TAKATORI et al. reference fails to disclose that the read clock is generated from an input signal.

In the present invention as recited, writing data to the memory and reading data from the memory are respectively executed using an extracted input clock (second clock) and a retiming clock (first clock), both of which are generated from the input signal. As the known prior art fails to disclose or suggest the features of the present invention as recited in these new claims, they are also believed to be in condition for immediate allowance.

In light of the amendments described above and the arguments offered in support thereof, applicants believe that the

present application is in condition for allowance, and an early indication of the same is respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 25-0120 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17.

Respectfully submitted,

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